Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original): A system for treating a dilated heart valve comprising:

a delivery device comprising a delivery catheter and a holding catheter;

a muscle elongation device coupled to the holding catheter and received in the delivery catheter, the muscle elongation device including at least one clamping device and disposed adjacent a distal end of the holding catheter, the at least one clamping device slidably disposed on an at least one connecting rod, wherein when the system is delivered to a muscle region associated with the dilated heart valve, the muscle elongation device is released from the delivery catheter and the at least one clamping device wraps around the muscle region.

Claim 2 (original): The system of claim 1 wherein the muscle elongation device includes a first clamping device fixedly attached to the at least one connecting rod and a second clamping device slidably disposed on the at least one connecting rod.

Claim 3 (original): The system of claim 1 wherein the delivery catheter further comprises a side delivery port located adjacent the distal end of the delivery catheter.

Claim 4 (original): The system of claim 3 wherein the side delivery port further comprises two restraining members.

Claim 5 (original): The system of claim 1 further comprising a locating device.

Claim 6 (original): The system of claim 5 wherein the locating device comprises a balloon.

Claim 7 (original): The system of claim 5 wherein the locating device comprises a guide wire.

Claim 8 (original): The system of claim 1 wherein the holding device comprises biopsy forceps.

Claim 9 (original): The system of claim 1 wherein the clamping devices comprise a shape-memory material.

Claim 10 (original): The system of claim 9 wherein the shape-memory material is an elastic shape-memory material.

Claim 11 (original): The system of claim 9 wherein the shape-memory material is a thermal shape-memory material.

Claim 12 (original): The system of claim 9 wherein the shape-memory material is a material chosen from a group consisting of stainless steel, nitinol, tantalum, cobalt nickel alloy, platinum, titanium, a thermoplastic or thermoset polymer, or a combination thereof.

Claim 13 (original): The system of claim 1 wherein the connecting rod comprises an at least one stop disposed at a proximal end of the connecting rod.

Claim 14 (original): The system of claim 13 wherein the connecting rod comprises a second stop disposed at a distal end of the connecting rod.

Claim 15 (original): A muscle elongation device for treatment of a dilated heart valve, comprising:

at least one connecting rod;

a first clamping device fixed to the at least one connecting rod; and

a second clamping device slidably disposed along the connecting rod,

wherein the first clamping device and the second clamping device have a first diameter in a delivery configuration and a second diameter in a clamping configuration, the second diameter less than the first diameter.

Claim 16 (original): The muscle elongation device of claim 15 further comprising:

at least one stop disposed on the at least one connecting rod.

Claim 17 (original): The muscle elongation device of claim 15 wherein the muscle elongation device is composed of a shape memory material.

Claim 18 (original): The muscle elongation device of claim 17 wherein the shape memory material is an elastic shape memory material.

Claim 19 (original): The muscle elongation device of claim 17 wherein the shape memory material is a thermal shape memory material.

Claim 20 (original): The muscle elongation device of claim 17 wherein the shape-memory material is a material chosen from a group consisting of stainless steel, nitinol, tantalum, cobalt nickel alloy, platinum, titanium, a thermoplastic or thermoset polymer, or a combination thereof.

Claim 21 (withdrawn): A method for treating a dilated heart valve, the method comprising:

delivering a muscle elongation device in a lumen of a delivery catheter proximate a dilated heart valve;

positioning at least two clamping devices disposed along at least one connecting rod of the muscle elongation device on a muscle region proximate the dilated heart valve;

releasing the muscle elongation device from the delivery catheter;

wrapping the clamping devices about the muscle region;

cutting the muscle between the clamping devices; and

sliding the clamping devices away from each other along the connecting rod.

Claim 22 (withdrawn): The method of claim 21 further comprising locating the cardiac muscle with a location device.